



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP - 4 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Andy Harris, M.D.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Harris:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

The Clean Power Plan for existing, fossil-fuel fired power plants aims to cut energy waste and leverage cleaner energy sources by doing two things. First, it uses a national framework to set achievable state-specific goals to cut carbon pollution per megawatt hour of electricity generated. Second, it empowers the states to chart their own paths to meet their goals. The proposal builds on what states, cities and businesses around the country are already doing to reduce carbon pollution, and, when fully implemented in 2030, carbon emissions will be reduced by approximately 30 percent from the power sector across the United States when compared with 2005 levels. In addition, we estimate the proposal will cut the pollution that causes smog and soot by 25 percent, avoiding up to 100,000 asthma attacks and 2,100 heart attacks by 2020.

Before issuing this proposal, the EPA heard from more than 300 stakeholder groups from around the country, to learn more about what programs are already working to reduce carbon pollution. These meetings, with states, utilities, labor unions, nongovernmental organizations, consumer groups, industry, and others, reaffirmed that states are leading the way. The Clean Air Act provides the tools to build on these state actions in ways that will achieve meaningful reductions and recognizes that the way we generate power in this country is diverse, complex and interconnected.

We appreciate your views about the effects of the proposal. As you know, we are currently seeking public comment on the proposal for existing sources, and we encourage you and all interested parties to provide us with detailed comments on all aspects of the proposed rule. The public comment period will remain open for 120 days, until October 16, 2014. You can submit additional comments via any one of these methods:

- Federal eRulemaking portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- E-mail: A-and-R-Docket@epa.gov. Include docket ID number HQ-OAR-2013-0602 in the subject line of the message.
- Fax: Fax your comments to: 202-566-9744. Include docket ID number HQ-OAR-2013-0602 on the cover page.
- Mail: Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Mailcode 28221T, Attention Docket ID No. OAR-2013-0602, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460.
- Hand Delivery or Courier: Deliver your comments to: EPA Docket Center, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC, 20460. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Your letter noted the importance of economic analysis, and the EPA released an extensive economic analysis with its proposal. Nationwide, by 2030, the Clean Power Plan will help to cut carbon pollution from the power sector by approximately 30 percent from 2005 levels. It will also reduce by 25 percent emissions of pollutants that contribute to soot and smog that make people sick. Together, the climate and other benefits in 2030 are worth an estimated \$55 billion to \$93 billion. This includes avoiding 2,700 to 6,600 premature deaths and 140,000 to 150,000 asthma attacks in children. The estimated benefits far outweigh the estimated costs for the plan, which are estimated at \$7.3 billion to \$8.8 billion in 2030.

Your letter also expressed concern about possible impacts of the proposed rule on electricity reliability and electricity prices. For 40 years, we have been able to both implement the Clean Air Act and keep the lights on. The agency's proposed Clean Power Plan will not change that. The EPA's analysis shows that there will be enough capacity across the U.S. electricity system to meet the anticipated level of demand. Coal, oil and natural gas will continue to have an important role in a diverse U.S. energy mix for years to come – with coal and natural gas remaining the two leading sources of electricity generation, each providing more than 30 percent of projected generation in 2030. EPA will also continue to rely on our discussions with a variety of stakeholders – including utilities, regional transmission operators, and state public utility regulators – to make sure reliability is appropriately considered and addressed.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Cheryl Mackay in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at mackay.cheryl@epa.gov or at (202) 564-2023.

Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP - 4 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Scott DesJarlais
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman DesJarlais:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

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Before issuing this proposal, the EPA heard from more than 300 stakeholder groups from around the country, to learn more about what programs are already working to reduce carbon pollution. These meetings, with states, utilities, labor unions, nongovernmental organizations, consumer groups, industry, and others, reaffirmed that states are leading the way. The Clean Air Act provides the tools to build on these state actions in ways that will achieve meaningful reductions and recognizes that the way we generate power in this country is diverse, complex and interconnected.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



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OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Phil Roe
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Roe:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Larry Bucshon
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bucshon:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP - 4 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Charles W. Boustany, Jr.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Boustany:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Bill Cassidy
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cassidy:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

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OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Phil Gingrey, M.D.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gingrey:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

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Your letter also expressed concern about possible impacts of the proposed rule on electricity reliability and electricity prices. For 40 years, we have been able to both implement the Clean Air Act and keep the lights on. The agency's proposed Clean Power Plan will not change that. The EPA's analysis shows that there will be enough capacity across the U.S. electricity system to meet the anticipated level of demand. Coal, oil and natural gas will continue to have an important role in a diverse U.S. energy mix for years to come – with coal and natural gas remaining the two leading sources of electricity generation, each providing more than 30 percent of projected generation in 2030. EPA will also continue to rely on our discussions with a variety of stakeholders – including utilities, regional transmission operators, and state public utility regulators – to make sure reliability is appropriately considered and addressed.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Cheryl Mackay in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at mackay.cheryl@epa.gov or at (202) 564-2023.

Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP - 4 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Joseph Heck
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Heck:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

The Clean Power Plan for existing, fossil-fuel fired power plants aims to cut energy waste and leverage cleaner energy sources by doing two things. First, it uses a national framework to set achievable state-specific goals to cut carbon pollution per megawatt hour of electricity generated. Second, it empowers the states to chart their own paths to meet their goals. The proposal builds on what states, cities and businesses around the country are already doing to reduce carbon pollution, and, when fully implemented in 2030, carbon emissions will be reduced by approximately 30 percent from the power sector across the United States when compared with 2005 levels. In addition, we estimate the proposal will cut the pollution that causes smog and soot by 25 percent, avoiding up to 100,000 asthma attacks and 2,100 heart attacks by 2020.

Before issuing this proposal, the EPA heard from more than 300 stakeholder groups from around the country, to learn more about what programs are already working to reduce carbon pollution. These meetings, with states, utilities, labor unions, nongovernmental organizations, consumer groups, industry, and others, reaffirmed that states are leading the way. The Clean Air Act provides the tools to build on these state actions in ways that will achieve meaningful reductions and recognizes that the way we generate power in this country is diverse, complex and interconnected.

We appreciate your views about the effects of the proposal. As you know, we are currently seeking public comment on the proposal for existing sources, and we encourage you and all interested parties to provide us with detailed comments on all aspects of the proposed rule. The public comment period will remain open for 120 days, until October 16, 2014. You can submit additional comments via any one of these methods:

- Federal eRulemaking portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- E-mail: A-and-R-Docket@epa.gov. Include docket ID number HQ-OAR-2013-0602 in the subject line of the message.
- Fax: Fax your comments to: 202-566-9744. Include docket ID number HQ-OAR-2013-0602 on the cover page.
- Mail: Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Mailcode 28221T, Attention Docket ID No. OAR-2013-0602, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460.
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Your letter noted the importance of economic analysis, and the EPA released an extensive economic analysis with its proposal. Nationwide, by 2030, the Clean Power Plan will help to cut carbon pollution from the power sector by approximately 30 percent from 2005 levels. It will also reduce by 25 percent emissions of pollutants that contribute to soot and smog that make people sick. Together, the climate and other benefits in 2030 are worth an estimated \$55 billion to \$93 billion. This includes avoiding 2,700 to 6,600 premature deaths and 140,000 to 150,000 asthma attacks in children. The estimated benefits far outweigh the estimated costs for the plan, which are estimated at \$7.3 billion to \$8.8 billion in 2030.

Your letter also expressed concern about possible impacts of the proposed rule on electricity reliability and electricity prices. For 40 years, we have been able to both implement the Clean Air Act and keep the lights on. The agency's proposed Clean Power Plan will not change that. The EPA's analysis shows that there will be enough capacity across the U.S. electricity system to meet the anticipated level of demand. Coal, oil and natural gas will continue to have an important role in a diverse U.S. energy mix for years to come – with coal and natural gas remaining the two leading sources of electricity generation, each providing more than 30 percent of projected generation in 2030. EPA will also continue to rely on our discussions with a variety of stakeholders – including utilities, regional transmission operators, and state public utility regulators – to make sure reliability is appropriately considered and addressed.

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Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP - 4 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Michael Burgess
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Burgess:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

The Clean Power Plan for existing, fossil-fuel fired power plants aims to cut energy waste and leverage cleaner energy sources by doing two things. First, it uses a national framework to set achievable state-specific goals to cut carbon pollution per megawatt hour of electricity generated. Second, it empowers the states to chart their own paths to meet their goals. The proposal builds on what states, cities and businesses around the country are already doing to reduce carbon pollution, and, when fully implemented in 2030, carbon emissions will be reduced by approximately 30 percent from the power sector across the United States when compared with 2005 levels. In addition, we estimate the proposal will cut the pollution that causes smog and soot by 25 percent, avoiding up to 100,000 asthma attacks and 2,100 heart attacks by 2020.

Before issuing this proposal, the EPA heard from more than 300 stakeholder groups from around the country, to learn more about what programs are already working to reduce carbon pollution. These meetings, with states, utilities, labor unions, nongovernmental organizations, consumer groups, industry, and others, reaffirmed that states are leading the way. The Clean Air Act provides the tools to build on these state actions in ways that will achieve meaningful reductions and recognizes that the way we generate power in this country is diverse, complex and interconnected.

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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Cheryl Mackay in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at mackay.cheryl@epa.gov or at (202) 564-2023.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP - 4 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Paul C. Broun
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Broun:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

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Before issuing this proposal, the EPA heard from more than 300 stakeholder groups from around the country, to learn more about what programs are already working to reduce carbon pollution. These meetings, with states, utilities, labor unions, nongovernmental organizations, consumer groups, industry, and others, reaffirmed that states are leading the way. The Clean Air Act provides the tools to build on these state actions in ways that will achieve meaningful reductions and recognizes that the way we generate power in this country is diverse, complex and interconnected.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP - 4 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Paul A. Gosar
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gosar:

Thank you for your March 11, 2014, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing several concerns about carbon regulations for power plants. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

Climate change induced by human activities is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It already threatens human health and welfare and our economic well-being, and if left unchecked, it will have devastating impacts on the United States and the planet. Power plants are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator